

Stephanie Kost

From: Sheri Johnson [makarios@covenantmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:39 PM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Impact of Excessively Violent Broadcast Television Programming on Children

Sheri Johnson
306 SE Dean Ave
Sutherlin, OR 97479

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Adelstein:

As a parent of three teenagers, it is increasingly difficult to find good family oriented programming that is not violent or demeaning. Because of this, I have chosen to not purchase cable or satellite programming at this time. And where I am at, I don't even receive any local broadcast stations. I would love to be able to allow my kids to turn on the TV and they could watch some decent programming.

When my oldest was just 4 years old, I began to see the results of violence in programming with "The Power Rangers" which ultimately resulted in the death of a kitten. Power Rangers is fairly innocuous, but it goes to show the power of suggestion with the violence in programming.

Today, I believe we can accurately say violence in programming has far exceeded Power Rangers level. I sincerely request that you would evaluate the level of violence in programming, particularly before 11 pm. It is NOT family friendly at this time. It is violent in many different ways. Please designate that time period as family friendly without violence and degradation.

Sincerely,

Sheri D. Johnson
(541) 459-8789

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Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:39 PM
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Chairman Michael Powell
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Powell:

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Stephanie Kost

From: Cynthia Wright [cyn4gvn@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:32 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: TV Violence

Cynthia Wright
1121 Clearfield Rd., S. W.
Roanoke, VA 24015

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Abernathy:

I am very concerned about the level of violence in television programing today. I think the show, "CSI" is particularly deplorable. Seeing violent programing week after week desensitizes people to suffering and undoubtedly increases cruel behavior in our society. Thank you for your interest in this subject. I appreciate your help.

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From: Jeffrey Ward [christy_jeff@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:14 PM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: TV violence

Jeffrey Ward
5307 Blue Stem Dr
Wichita Falls, FL 76310

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
445 12th Street SW
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Commissioner Adelstein:

I am writing in response to your inquiry on TV violence. Please do what you can to curb violence on the airwaves. If something is questionable, stay on the conservative side and DON'T air it. I am sure the evening news will cover plenty of violence to cover any loss.

Thanks for you inquiry.

Sincerely,

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940-689-0770

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Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:11 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: ***Violence***

Francis Raines
61 Vit Rd
Pineville, Louisiana 71360

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Abernathy:

I am opposed to any violence shown on TV I think it is a dumbing down of the conscience of the young in our society. I am also opposed to the filth that is allowed on the Howard Stern show. Please consider my opinion on these matters.

Sincerely,

Francis Raines
318-445-5293

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From: hedberg.j@utah.edu
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:03 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: Public violence

Ma'am or Sir,

I understand from local news that the FCC began soliciting public comment on Wednesday regarding whether there is too much television violence, and also whether the government should step in.

I've grown up a TV watcher, and it wasn't until I got older that I realized just how much of an impact television violence (and sexual content, as well) had on my attitudes, and even on my fears. I grew up loving people for the good that I absorbed in themes and content, but I've also become extremely tentative face-to-face: even though I care about people in a spiritual sense, I'm also scared to death by all that I've seen thrown across the screen, and it's been very hard for me to learn to shake a very negative impression whenever I'm out and with people. I simply can't shake loose from all I've seen and all I've heard. It takes an honest, real effort to overcome these images and feelings still flashing just below the surface of consciousness.

Since I grew up with it, it's taken time to realize from the world around me that much of what I absorbed from television was not the way people really are, not in any normal context. Television has a way of accentuating the worst case and making it seem real and normal, so I grew up thinking of people (and me) very destructively, and it took time for me to find the better reality.

I'd like to think children could have time and space to absorb better impressions and ways of thinking about themselves and other people, so that by the time some of the more frightening cases in life come to the fore, they're sort of set in a path and way of thinking that makes a positive view of life possible and choosable. That initial positive way of seeing people, with growth and experience, maybe gives children more flexibility as adults when they do encounter some of the worse possibilities.

To put it simply, I've struggled with making positive choices because I just didn't believe anything better was possible. Right now, I think television tends to reinforce the negative aspects of life, which may be fine for those growing up in a rational, safe, loving environment (and only maybe), but for those who grew up in a negative way, what I saw tended to confirm worst fears and make dreams seem more like fantasies than reachable realities.

I've grown a good bit since, but I'm still in the midst of impressions that I still carry, just beneath the surface. Some of these images don't want to go away: memory is very resilient, sometimes more than I might wish. This may be more the case given that children's memories tend to last longest and make strongest impressions.

I'm sorry to have expressed so much of this in personal terms. I hope the gist of what I'm trying to convey comes through clearly, regardless.

If I can help in any way, please contact me. Maybe I can find a better way to say what I've said so that it can be understood by those who most need to hear it.

Thank you very much for your attention.

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John E. Hedberg
134 First Avenue #7
Salt Lake City, UT 84103-2316

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From: hedberg.j@utah.edu
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From: Patricia Thomas [pthm3@juno.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 31, 2004 2:03 PM
To: KAQuinn
Subject: Violent broadcast television programming

Patricia Thomas
2401 S. Apple St., #K103
Boise, ID 83706

July 31, 2004

Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Abernathy:

Dear Commissioners:

As a parent I believe violence on TV has a negative impact on children. I rarely allow my children to watch network television. We only watch videos because of the uncertainty of what they will see or hear. A few times I have let them watch a childrens show on TV but have regretted it due to material in the movie or the commercials that were unappropriate. For all of those who argue that it is the parents responsibility to monitor what they watch, the only option now is not to allow TV at all. TV programming is just too unpredictable.

Sincerely,

Trish Thomas
208-395-0607

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